

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:06 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CFTC REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005; FOREST EMERGENCY RECOVERY AND RESEARCH ACT

Committee on Agriculture: Approved, as amended, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Reauthorization Act of 2005.

The Committee also held a hearing on H.R. 4200, Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Walden of Oregon and Baird; Dale Bosworth, Chief, Forest Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

BCS/COLLEGE FOOTBALL POST-SEASON

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection held a hearing entitled “Determining a Champion on the Field: A Comprehensive Review of the BCS and Postseason College Football.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNDERSTANDING THE PEAK OIL THEORY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “Understanding the Peak Oil Theory,” focusing on H. Res. 507, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States, in collaboration with other international allies, should establish an energy project with the magnitude, creativity, and sense of urgency that was incorporated in the “Man on the Moon” project to address the inevitable challenges of “Peak Oil.” Testimony was heard from Representatives Bartlett of Maryland and Udall of New Mexico; Murray Smith, Minister—Counsellor Government, Canadian Embassy; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—ROLL OF IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT AND FORENSIC DOCUMENT LABORATORY

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment and the Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity met in executive session to receive a joint briefing on the overview and roll of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Forensic Document Laboratory (FDL). The Subcommittees were briefed by departmental witnesses.

AVIAN FLU PANDEMIC

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on Avian Flu: Addressing the Global Threat. Testimony

was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Anthony F. Rock, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs; and Kent R. Hill, Assistant Administrator, Global Health, U. S. Agency for International Development; the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH; and Anne Schuchat, M.D., Acting Director, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Margaret Chan, M.D., representative of the Director-General for Pandemic Influenza, WHO; and a public witness.

U.N. OIL-FOR-FOOD PROGRAM REPORT

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations approved a Subcommittee report entitled “The Oil-for-Food Program: The Systematic Failure of the United Nations.”

OVERSIGHT—INTERNATIONAL IPR REPORT CARD

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property held an oversight hearing on International IPR Report Card—Assessing U.S. Government and Industry Efforts to Enhance Chinese and Russian Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights. Testimony was heard from Chris Israel, Coordinator, International Intellectual Property Enforcement, Department of Commerce; Victoria Espinel, Acting Assistant U.S. Trade Representative, Intellectual Property; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 862, To redesignate the Rio Grande American Canal in El Paso, Texas, as the “Travis C. Johnson Canal”; H.R. 2334, City of Oxnard Water Recycling and Desalination Act of 2005; H.R. 2978, To allow the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights recognized under the Fort Peck—Montana Compact for the purpose of meeting the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Incorporated; H.R. 4000, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise certain repayment contracts with the Bostwick Irrigation District in Nebraska, the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District No. 2, the Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District, and the Webster Irrigation District No 4, all a part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program; and S. 101, To convey to the town of Frannie, Wyoming,

certain land withdrawn by the Commissioner of Reclamation. Testimony was heard from Representative Moran of Kansas; William Rinne, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior; Carlos Marin, Acting U.S. Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, Department of State; Andres Herrera, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Oxnard, California; John Morles, Chairman, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation; and a public witness.

TAX RELIEF EXTENSION RECONCILIATION ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing one hour of debate in the House on H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution, if offered by Representative Rangel of New York or his designee, which shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Rules Committee report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Camp and Neal.

GULF COAST RECOVERY ACT; FEDERAL AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT REAL PROPERTY ACT; ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SURVEY RESOLUTIONS; GSA RESOLUTION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 4438, Gulf Coast Recovery Act of 2005; and H.R. 3699, amended, Federal and District of Columbia Government Real Property Act of 2005.

The Committee also approved the following: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey resolutions; and a GSA 3314(b) resolution.

OVERSIGHT—VETERANS AFFAIRS DISABILITY CLAIMS PROCESS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Held an oversight hearing on the challenges and opportunities facing dis-

ability claims process at the Veterans Benefits Administration. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Under Secretary, Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration; and James P. Terry, Chairman, Board of Veterans' Appeals; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

BRIEFING—GLOBAL UPDATES/HOTSPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Updates/Hotspots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

BRIEFING—MUSLIM EXTREMISM

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence and the Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy met in executive session to receive a joint briefing on Muslim Extremism. The Subcommittees were briefed by departmental witnesses.

HURRICANE KATRINA: PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE BY STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina: Held a hearing entitled "Hurricane Katrina: Preparedness and Response by the State of Mississippi." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the State of Mississippi: Haley Barbour, Governor; Brian W. Amy, M.D., State Health Officer; Robert Latham, Director, Emergency Management Agency; Brent Warr, Mayor, Gulfport; Tommy Longo, Mayor, Waveland; Benjamin Spraggins, Director, Harrison County Emergency Management Agency; and Bobby Strahan, Director, Pearl River County Emergency Management Agency; and William Carwile, former FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer, State of Mississippi.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine perspectives of FEMA's operations professionals relative to Hurricane Katrina, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of George W. Foresman, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Preparedness, and Tracy A. Henke, of Missouri, to be Executive Director of the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness,